



PROPOSED RULE MAKING  
(RCW 34.05.320)

CR-102 (7/22/01)  
Do NOT use for expedited  
rule making

Agency: Board of Accountancy

- ☒ Preproposal Statement of Inquiry was filed as WSR 03-01-102 ; or  
☐ Expedited Rule Making -- Proposed notice was filed as WSR \_\_\_\_\_; or  
☐ Proposal is exempt under RCW 34.05.310(4).

- ☒ Original Notice  
☐ Supplemental Notice  
to WSR \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Continuance of WSR \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Title of rule: (Describe Subject) WAC 4-25-530 Fees.

Purpose: To increase the initial, renewal and reinstatement fee charged to CPA applicants, CPAs, and CPA firms to cover the fiscal costs associated with the implementation of the revisions to chapter 18.04.RCW passed through the 2003 Legislative Session (Substitute House Bill 1211); To increase the fees charged to take the uniform certified public accountant (CPA) examination; To reduce the fee the agency charges to provide copies of public record  
Other identifying information:

(b) Statutory authority for adoption: See attached

Statute being implemented: See attached

(c) Summary: Increases the initial, renewal and reinstatement fee charged to CPA applicants, CPAs, and CPA firms to cover the fiscal costs associated with the implementation of the revisions to chapter 18.04.RCW passed through the 2003 Legislative Session (Substitute House Bill 1211); Increases the fees charged to take the uniform certified public accountant (CPA) examination; Reduces the fee the agency charges to provide copies of public record

Reasons supporting proposal: See attached

(d) Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for:	Office Location	Telephone
1. Drafting..... Dana M. McInturff, CPA	Olympia, Washington	(360) 586-0163
2. Implementation.... Dana M. McInturff, CPA	Olympia, Washington	(360) 586-0163
3. Enforcement..... Dana M. McInturff, CPA	Olympia, Washington	(360) 586-0163

(e) Name of proponent (person or organization): Primarily the Washington State Board of Accountancy

- ☐ Private  
☐ Public  
☒ Governmental

(f) Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement and fiscal matters:

(g) Is rule necessary because of:

Federal Law?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
State Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

If yes, ATTACH COPY OF TEXT  
Citation:

(h) HEARING LOCATION:  
Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center  
17620 Pacific Highway South  
SeaTac, WA

Submit written comments to:  
Dana M. McInturff, Executive Director  
PO Box 9131  
Olympia, WA 98507-9131

FAX (360) 664-9190 By (date) 10/17/03

Date: 10/30/03 Time: 1:00 p.m.

DATE OF INTENDED ADOPTION: 10/31/03

Assistance for persons with disabilities: Contact  
Cheryl Sexton by 10/24/03

TDD (800) 833-6384 or (360) 664-9194

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Dana M. McInturff, CPA

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Executive Director

DATE

August 15, 2003

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER'S OFFICE  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

AUG 29 2003

TIME

2:52

WSR

03-18-083

AM  
PM

(COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE)

(j) Short explanation of rule, its purpose, and anticipated effects:

The Board's goal with all of its rule proposals is to:

- Promote clarity
- Ensure effective communication
- Ensure fairness in interpretation and application of the rules
- Promote efficiencies through minimizing gray areas

Specifically RCW 18.04.065 directs the Board to "set its fees at a level adequate to pay the costs of administering this chapter" (that is, chapter 18.04 RCW, the Accountancy Act).

Does proposal change existing rules? ☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, describe changes:

- (1) Increases the initial application fee \$30
- (2) Increases the renewal fee \$30
- (3) Increases the reinstatement fee \$30
- (4) Decreases the charge for providing public records from \$0.50/page to \$0.15/page for records exceeding 50 pages
- (5) Separates the charges for the CPA examination into section fees and administrative fees
- (6) Increases the fees charged to take the examination; for example, the current fee for a first-time applicant to take all sections of the examination is \$284; under the proposal the same candidate will pay \$584.50 to take all sections of the examination

(k) Has a small business economic impact statement been prepared under chapter 19.85 RCW?

- ☐ Yes. Attach copy of small business economic impact statement.  
A copy of the statement may be obtained by writing to:

telephoning: (     )  
faxing: (     )

☒ No. Explain why no statement was prepared  
The proposed rule will not have more than minor economic impact on business

(l) Does RCW 34.05.328 apply to this rule adoption? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Please explain: The Board of Accountancy is not one of the agencies required to submit to the requirements of RCW 34.05.328.

**b) Statutory authority for adoption and Statute being implemented:**

	<b>(b) Statutory authority for adoption</b>	<b>Statute being implemented:</b>
WAC 4-25-530	RCW 18.04.065; 18.04.105(3); 18.04.195(7); 18.04.205(4); 18.04.215(8); 18.04.350(2)(a); and RCW 42.17.260(8)	RCW 18.04.065; 18.04.105(3); 18.04.195(7); 18.04.205(4); 18.04.215(8); 18.04.350(2)(a); and RCW 42.17.260(8)

**Reasons supporting proposal:**

- (1) The 2003 Washington State Legislature amended the Public Accountancy Act (Substitute House Bill 1211). The Board needs to increase fees to cover the fiscal costs associated with the implementation of the changes to 18.04 RCW including oversight and enforcement related to the self-reporting of enforcement actions by other regulatory bodies. The 2003 Washington State Legislature authorized the Board to increase fees during the 2003-05 fiscal biennium in excess of the fiscal growth factor as provided in RCW 43.135.055, if the increases are necessary to fully fund the cost of administering the bill.
- (2) The CPA examination is moving to a computerized-based format in 2004. The increases to the fees charged to take the CPA examination are necessary to cover the costs associated with:
  - Education and evaluation and exam administration vendor
  - Testing center's delivery and proctoring of examination
  - American Institute of CPAs' (AICPA) test development, delivery, and testing
  - National State Boards of Accountancy's (NASBA) Nationwide Database Gateway fee to ensure candidates are registered only in Washington State
  - Board expenses to respond to candidate questions and perform oversight on vendors

The proposed changes also include an increase in the administrative fees charged by the vendor contracting with the Board for the administration of the examination. Including the increase now will eliminate the need for addition rule-making in 2006 therefore reducing costs.
- (3) Statute (RCW 42.17.280[8]) sets the amount an agency may charge for copying public records absent a statement of the actual per page cost. The Board needs to reduce the fee it currently charges for copies to align with statute.

AMENDATORY SECTION  
effective 12/31/02)

(Amending WSR 02-22-083, filed 11/5/02,

WAC 4-25-530 Fees. The board shall charge the following fees:

(((1)	CPA examination applications:	
(a)	First-time .....	\$284
(b)	Recexamination, four sections .....	\$259
(c)	Recexamination, two sections .....	\$182
(d)	Recexamination, one section .....	\$154
(e)	Administration of examination for out-of-state applicants .....	\$110
(2)	Initial individual license, practice privilege, individual license through reciprocity, or registration as a resident nonlicensee firm owner .....	\$300
(3)	Renewal of license, certificate, practice privilege, or registration as a resident nonlicensee firm owner .....	\$200
(4)	CPA firm license and renewal fee (sole proprietorships with no employees are exempt) .....	\$200
(5)	Amendment to firm license .....	\$25
(6)	Copies of records, per page exceeding fifty pages .....	\$0.50
(7)	Printed listing of CPA exam candidates ...	\$75
(8)	Computer diskette listing of licensees, certificatcholders, grants of practice privilege, and registered resident nonlicensee firm owners and CPA exam candidates .....	\$75
(9)	Applications for reinstatement of license, practice privilege, certificate, or registration as a resident nonlicensee owner .....	\$450
(10)	Replacement CPA wall document .....	\$50
(11)	Quality assurance review program fee (includes monitoring reviews for up to two years) .....	\$400
(12)	Late fee .....	\$100
(13)	Dishonored check fee (including, but not limited to, insufficient funds or closed accounts) .....	\$35
(14)	Application for certificatcholder to convert to a license .....	\$0))

- (1) Initial application for individual license, practice privilege, individual license through reciprocity, CPA firm license (sole proprietorships with no employees are exempt from the fee), or registration as a resident nonlicensee firm owner ..... \$330
- (2) Renewal of individual license, certificate, practice privilege, CPA firm license (sole proprietorships with no employees are exempt from the fee), or registration as a resident nonlicensee firm owner ..... \$230
- (3) Application for certificateholder to convert to a license ..... \$0
- (4) Application for reinstatement of license, practice privilege, certificate, or registration as a resident nonlicensee owner ..... \$480
- (5) Quality assurance review program fee (includes monitoring reviews for up to two years) ..... \$400
- (6) Late fee ..... \$100
- (7) Amendment to firm license ..... \$25
- (8) Copies of records, per page exceeding fifty pages ..... \$0.15
- (9) Printed listing of CPA exam candidates ..... \$75
- (10) Computer diskette listing of licensees, certificateholders, grants of practice privilege, and registered resident nonlicensee firm owners; computer diskette of CPA exam candidates; or computer diskette of firms ..... \$75
- (11) Replacement CPA wall document ..... \$50
- (12) Dishonored check fee (including, but not limited to, insufficient funds or closed accounts) ..... \$35
- (13) CPA examination. Exam fees are comprised of section fees plus administrative fees. The total fee is contingent upon which section(s) is/are being applied for and the number of sections being applied for at the same time. The total fee is the section fee(s) for each section(s) applied for added to the administrative fee for the number of section(s) applied for.
  - (a) Section fees:

(i)	<u>Auditing and attestation .....</u>	<u>\$144.50</u>	
(ii)	<u>Financial accounting and reporting .....</u>	<u>\$136.00</u>	
(iii)	<u>Regulation .....</u>	<u>\$119.00</u>	
(iv)	<u>Business environment and concepts .....</u>	<u>\$110.50</u>	
(b)	<u>Administrative fees:</u>	<u>1/1/04 - 12/31/06</u>	<u>After 1/1/07</u>
(i)	<u>First-time candidate - Four sections .....</u>	<u>\$84.50</u>	<u>\$92.95</u>
(ii)	<u>First-time candidate - Three sections .....</u>	<u>\$81.00</u>	<u>\$89.10</u>
(iii)	<u>First-time candidate - Two sections .....</u>	<u>\$77.00</u>	<u>\$84.70</u>
(iv)	<u>First-time candidate - One section .....</u>	<u>\$73.00</u>	<u>\$80.30</u>
(v)	<u>Reexam candidate - Four sections .....</u>	<u>\$82.50</u>	<u>\$90.75</u>
(vi)	<u>Reexam candidate - Three sections .....</u>	<u>\$74.00</u>	<u>\$81.40</u>
(vii)	<u>Reexam candidate - Two sections .....</u>	<u>\$65.00</u>	<u>\$71.50</u>
(viii)	<u>Reexam candidate - One section .....</u>	<u>\$56.00</u>	<u>\$61.60</u>

Note: The board may waive late filing fees for good cause.